facility and a number of representations have been submitted to the Lt. Governor of Delhi and the Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi by the Committee of the citizens of Gautampuri and Brahmpuri Delhi-110053, but nothing has been done in the matter so far;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether there is any proposal to provide potable water facility to the common citizen in the current year; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the said facility is likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) It has been reported by the Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking that Zafrabad, Brahmpuri and Gautampuri are regularised unauthorised colonies. According to the extent policy, potable water supply in such colonies is given on initial payment of 10 per cent of the development charges involved in the laying of water mains. Estimates for providing internal water supply in these colonies has been framed but beneficiaries have not yet deposited initial 10 per cent cost of the estimated development charges. A few public water hydrants from rising main have been provided in Zafrabad colony as an exceptional case but no individual connections have been given.

AIR and Doordarshan advertising agencies in States

2622. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the advertising agencis or their associations against the new registration/accreditation rules for advertising agencies with AIR and Doordarshan:

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government towards their demands;

(c) whether Government have taken note of the default in payment by some agencies and the action taken thereafter; and

(d) the State-wise break up of AIR and Doordarshan advertising agencies and the work undertaken by them during the last three years and default committed by them?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So, far as Doordarshan is concerned, the demands of the advertising agencies are mainly regarding reductions in the capital base and minimum business with Doordarshan for grant of accreditation status and amount of bank guarantee. The amount of paid-up capital has already been reduced by 50 per cent.

So far as All India Radio is concerned, the main point raised by the Radio and TV Advertising Practitioners' Association (RAPA) is that the new policy of accreditation for advertising agencies would wipe out small agencies. This contention of the Association is not correct as under the new regulations the earlier differential rate of commission has been dispensed with to the advantage of small agencies. Now both the accreditated and non-accreditated agencies are entitled to a 15 per cent commission.

(c) The default in payment by the agencies is constantly and closely monitored. Action against the defaulters is taken as provided for in the rules (i) interest @ 18 per cent per annum is charged on all payments received late; (ii) in case of non-payment of long priods, the credit facility is withdrawn and bookings are not accepted till all outstanding payments are cleared. The bank guarantee can also be encashed, if necessary. As a last resort legal proceedings are initiated for recovering Government dues.

(d) It is not possible to compile State-wise break up of advertising agencies in the agencies are registered on all-India basis.

Reduction in Custom duty on import of Aluminium Scrap

2623. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced custom duty on import of aluminium ingots and scrap to overcome the existing shortage of the metal in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that 15,000 tonnes aluminium metal from Government have decided to export NALCO inspite of prevailing shortage: and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR) : (a) to (c). With the sequential energisation of pots by NALCO, their production of aluminium metal is gradually increasing. During 1988-89 indigenous production of primary aluminium is expected to match the estimated demand. However, with a view to cater to any fluctuations in demand, aluminium including aluminium rods were placed under Open General Licence (OGL) in July 1988 with marginal level of customs duty of only Rs. 500 per tonne. The customs duty on import of aluminium scrap, already on OGL, has also been reduced from 95 per cent *ad valorem* to 35 per cent *ad valorem.*

As the monthly production of NALCO is picking up and has increased from the level of 5268 tonnes in June, 1983 to about 6313 tonnes in October, 1988, NALCO has been authorised to export 15,000 tonnes of high grade aluminium metal during the current year.

Import of Aluminium ingots under open general licence policy

2624. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have put the import of aluminium ingots under Open General Licence Policy in view of acute shortage of metal faced by the industry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the shortage is still continuing and Government have received representation for decontrol of the prices of aluminium metal; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking or propose to take to decontrol the prices of aluminium to ease the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) During 1988-89, the indigenous production of primary aluminium is expected to match the estimated demand. However, with a view to cater to any fluctuations in demand, Aluminium including Aluminium rods were placed under Open General Lincence (OGL) in July, 1988.

Sections of the Industry have been representing in favour of and against decontrol of aluminium for sometime now. When Natonal Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) goes into full production, further improvement in the availability of aluminium is anticipated. Various policy options including decontrol of aluminium are always kept in view for consideraton at the opportune time.

Use of Thin Walled Quick Coupling Steel Pipes for drinking water

2625. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Thin Walled Quick Coupling Steel Pipes conforming to IS-11722-1986 are injurious to health when used for purposes of drinking